

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 03258 290848Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
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INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, TU, CY, US
SUBJECT: US/TURKISH RELATIONS: CYPRUS LINKAGE

LAST EVENING (APRIL 28), AT WHAT HAD BEEN ORIGINALLY
PLANNED AS ONE OF MY LAST FAREWELL PARTIES HERE, I
HAD A FOLLOW-UP CONVERSATION WITH MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG
CONCERNING DENKTASH'S ALLEGEDLY WANTING TO KNOW WHAT
CONGRESS WAS GOING TO DO ABOUT MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR
TURKEY BEFORE SCHEDULING RESUMPTION OF CYPRUS
TALKS (ANKARA 3233). AT LEAST I CONSIDER OUR CONVERSA-
TION A FOLLOW-UP, EVEN THOUGH THE DENKTASH EPISODE WAS
NEVER SPECIFICALLY REFERRED TO. INSTEAD, WE WERE
TALKING IN THE PRESENCE OF A NUMBER OF OTHER PROMINENT
TURKS ABOUT OUR MUTUAL HOPE THAT THE ELECTION WOULD
PRODUCE A GOVERNMENT WHICH WOULD BE CAPABLE OF
STRAIGHTENING OUT BOTH US/TURKISH RELATIONS AND
THE CYPRUS SITUATION. AT THIS POINT, ELEKDAG
SAID SOMETHING THAT HE HAS NEVER GOTTEN INTO WITH ME
BEFORE. IT'S NOT GOING TO BE THAT SIMPLE, HE, IN
EFFECT, SAID, BECAUSE EVEN IF A NEW GOVERNMENT CAN
SATISFACTORILY RESOLVE THE CYPRUS SITUATION AND ITS
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PRESENT RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE US, IT'S GOING TO HAVE
TO FACE UP, AT LEAST IN HIS OPINION, TO THE MORE
FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM OF WHAT THE TURKISH RELATIONSHIP
WITH THE US REALLY OUGHT TO BE, GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE
GREEK LOBBY CAN NOW CONTROL, OR AT LEAST VERY SUBSTAN-
TIALY INFLUENCE THROUGH ITS POWER IN CONGRESS, US/TURKISH
RELATIONSHIPS. THIS MEANS, SAID ELEKDAG, THAT ANY TIME

THERE IS DIFFICULTY BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY, TURKEY WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH CONGRESSIONAL HOSTILITY, AND THIS HAS KEY LONGER TERM IMPLICATIONS WHICH ANY RESPONSIBLE NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE TO FACE, EVEN IF THAT GOVERNMENT IS STRONG ENOUGH AND EFFECTIVE ENOUGH TO DO THE THINGS THAT IN THE PRESENT INSTANCE ARE NEEDED TO STRAIGHTEN OUT US/TURKISH RELATIONS. PERHAPS, SAID ELEKDAG, THE NEW GOVERNMENT SHOULD CONSIDER MAKING THE STRAIGHTENING OUT OF THE US/TURKISH RELATIONSHIPS, AND SPECIFICALLY THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE RELATIONSHIP, A PRE-CONDITION OF ANY FURTHER EFFORT BY THE TURKS TO DO ANYTHING TO MOVE THE CYPRUS SITUATION FORWARD. IN RESPONSE, I CAUTIONED AGAINST MAKING GENERALIZATIONS ABOUT THE US CONGRESS BASED ON A CURRENT AND PARTICULAR SITUATION AND NOTED THAT OER THE YEARS, THE US CONGRESS HAD A VERY GOOD RECORD OF FOCUSING ON US NATIONAL INTERESTS. I ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE KIND OF TACTICS HE WAS DISCUSSING COULD BE VERY COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE, NOTING THAT TURKEY WOULD BE BETTER ADVISED TO FOCUS ON HOW IT COULD HANDLE ITS RELATIONS WITH THE US IN A SMOOTHER AND MORE PRODUCTIVE MANNER. ELEKDAG, WHO IS PERHAPS AS PRO-AMERICAN AS ANY SENIOR OFFICIAL HERE, LET THE MATTER DROP. I PASS ALONG THIS KIND OF "THINKING OUT LOUD" ON HIS PART, HOWEVER, AS IT REFLECTS MY OWN CONTINUING CONCERN REGARDING CONSEQUENCES FOR THE FUTURE IF ANKARA FINALLY CONCLUDES THAT ATHENS AND ITS SUPPORTERS IN THE US CONGRESS ARE GOING TO HAVE EFFECTIVE CONTROL OVER US/TURKISH RELATIONS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: US/TURKISH RELATIONS: CYPRUS LINKAGE LAST EVENING (APRIL 28), AT WHAT HAD BEEN ORIGINALLY PLANNED AS ONE OF MY LAST FAREWELL PARTIES HERE, I
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To: STATE
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